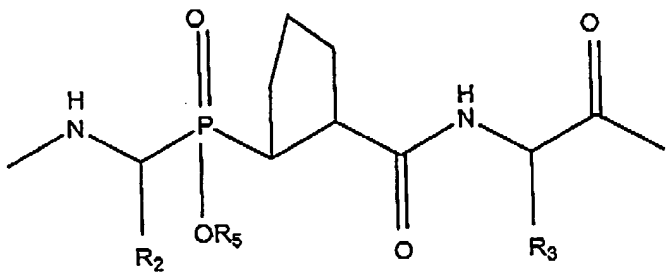
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

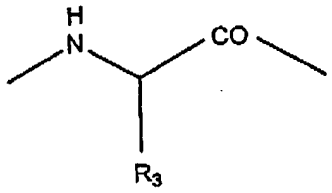
Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for selectively inhibiting the C-terminal site of angiotensin I converting enzyme comprising ~~utilizing~~ administering to a patient in need thereof at least one phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative comprising the amino acid sequence of formula (I) ~~below~~:



(I)

wherein,

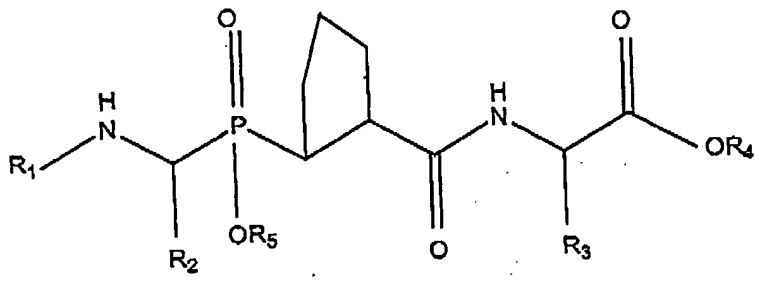
- R_2 and R_3, which are identical or different, represent the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid, the sequence:



also possibly forming the Pro (proline) residue, and

- R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, a pharmacologically acceptable counterion, or a group that ~~can form~~ forms an *in vivo* hydrolysable phosphinic ester ; .

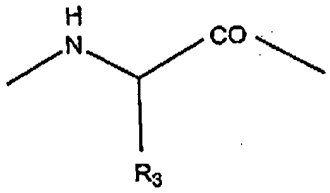
Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A method for selectively inhibiting the C-terminal site of angiotensin I converting enzyme comprising ~~utilizing~~ administering to a patient in need thereof a phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative corresponding to formula (II) ~~below~~:



(II)

wherein,

- R_1 represents a protecting group for an amine function, or an amino acid or a peptide protected with a protecting group for an amine function,
- R_2 and R_3, which may be identical or different, represent the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid, the sequence:



also possibly forming the Pro residue,

- R_4 represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmacologically acceptable counterion, and
- R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, a pharmacologically acceptable counterion, or a group that ~~can form~~ forms an *in vivo* hydrolysable phosphinic ester ;.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 2, wherein R_1 represents a protecting group for an amine function chosen from acetyl and benzyloxycarbonyl groups.

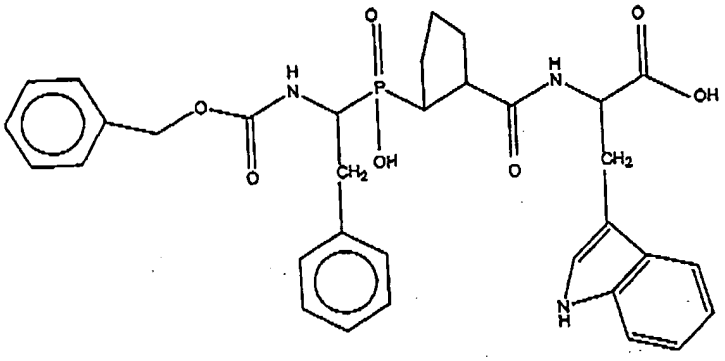
Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 1, wherein R_2 represents the benzyl, methyl or phenylethyl group.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 1, wherein R_3 represents the side chain of alanine, arginine or tryptophan.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 1, wherein the sequence –NH-CH(R_3)-CO- forms the Pro residue:

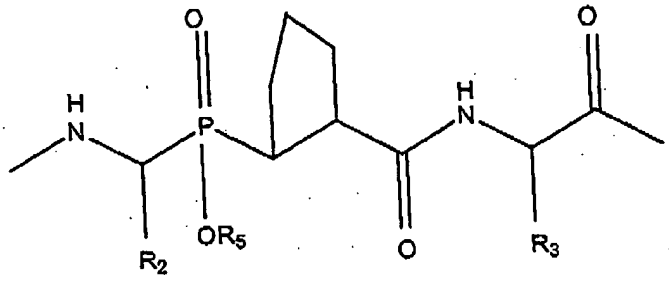
Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 1, wherein R_4 and/or R_5 represent(s) a hydrogen atom.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 2, wherein the phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative ~~corresponds to the formula~~ is:



(pseudo-peptide G)

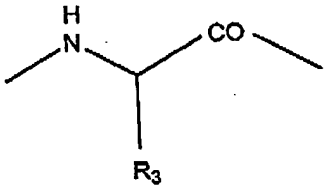
Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative comprising the amino acid sequence of formula (I) ~~below~~:



(I)

wherein,

- R_2 represents the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid,
- the sequence:



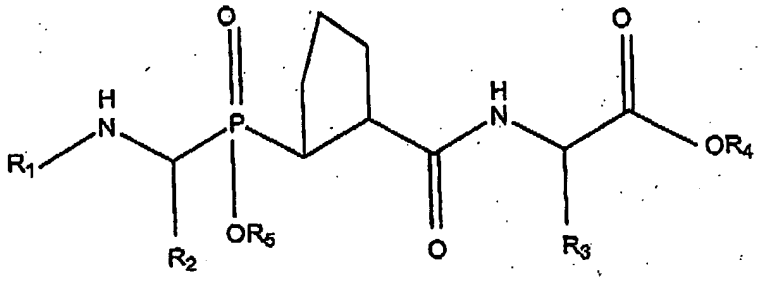
forms the Pro residue:

- ~~R_4 represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmacologically acceptable counterion,~~

and

- R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, a pharmacologically acceptable counterion, or a group ~~than can form~~ that forms an *in vivo* hydrolysable phosphinic ester.

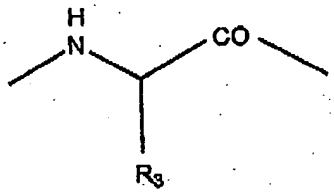
Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative ~~corresponding to~~ of formula (II) ~~below~~:



(II)

wherein,

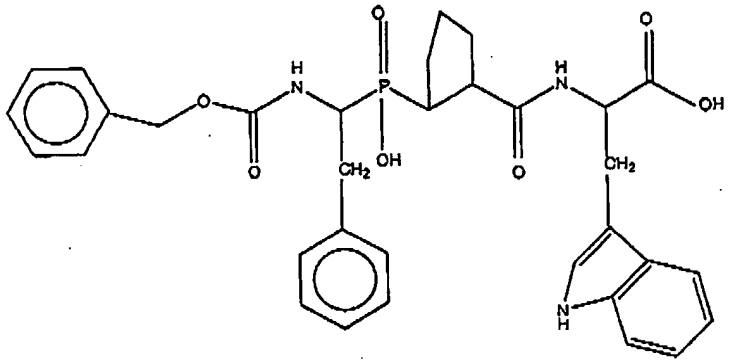
- R_1 represents a protecting group for an amine function, or an amino acid or a peptide protected with a protecting group for an amine function,
- R_2 represents the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid,
- the sequence:



forms the Pro residue:

- R_4 represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmacologically acceptable counterion, and
- R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, a pharmacologically acceptable counterion, or a group ~~than can form~~ that forms an *in vivo* hydrolysable phosphinic ester.

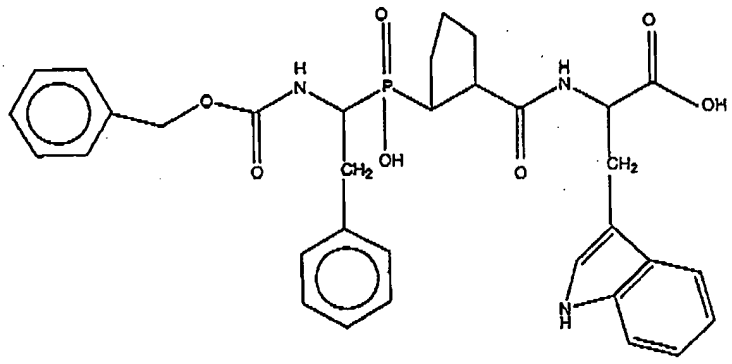
Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative of formula:



(pseudo-peptide G)

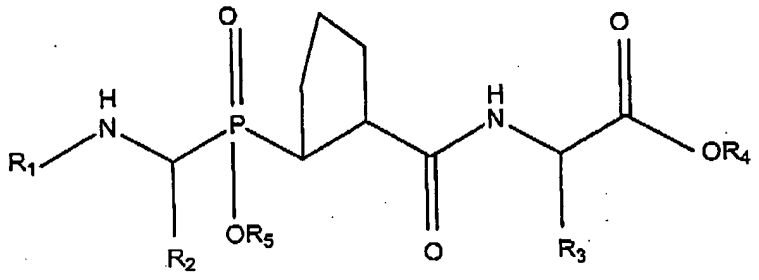
Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative as claimed in Claim 9.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition ~~, in which the~~ comprising a phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative ~~corresponds to the~~ of formula:



(pseudo-peptide G)

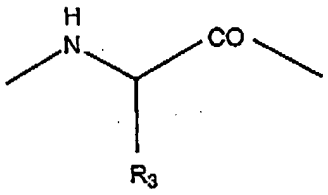
Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a pseudopeptide of formula:



(II)

wherein:

- R_1 represents a protecting group for an amine function, or an amino acid or a peptide protected with a protecting group for an amine function,
- R_2 and R_3, which may be identical or different, represent the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid, the sequence:

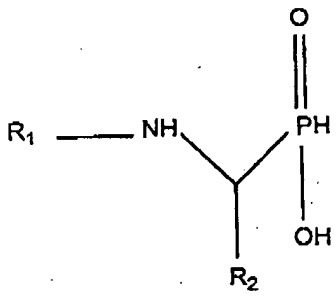


also possibly forming the Pro residue, and

- R_4 and R_5 represent a hydrogen atom;

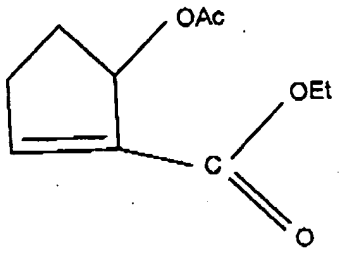
which comprises the following steps:

1) reacting a compound of formula (III):



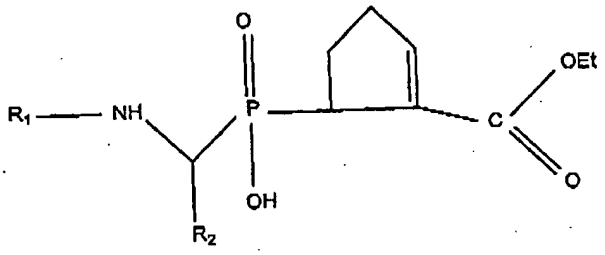
(III)

in which R_1 and R_2 are as defined above, with the compound of formula (IV):



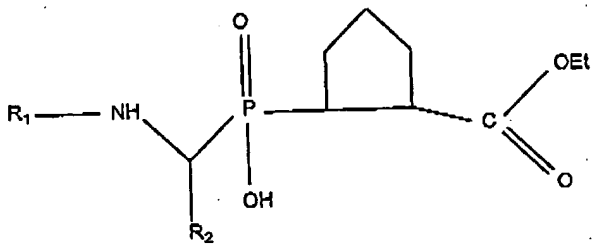
(IV)

in which Ac represents the acetyl group and Et represents the ethyl group, to obtain the compound of formula (V):



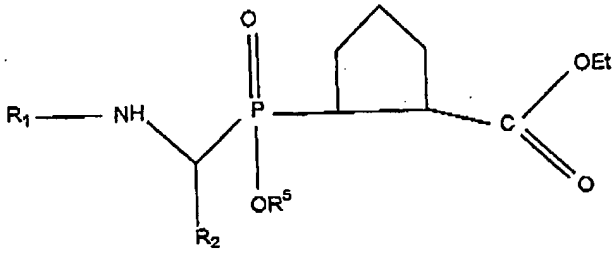
(V)

2) converting compound (V) into compound (VI) by reacting compound (V) with sodium borohydride:



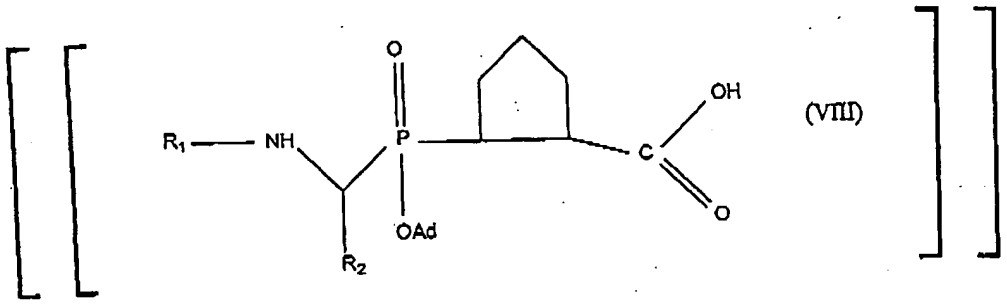
(VI)

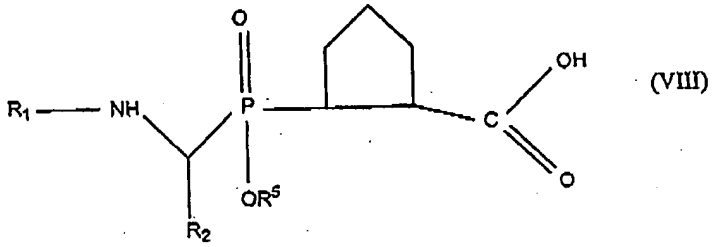
3) protecting the hydroxyl group of compound (VI) with a protecting group R_5 ~~, for example the adamantyl group Ad,~~ to give the compound of formula (VII):



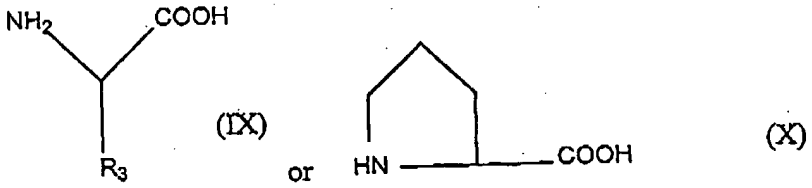
(VII)

4) saponifying compound (VII) to give the compound of formula (VIII):





5) coupling the compound of formula (VIII) with the amino acid of formula (IX) or (X):

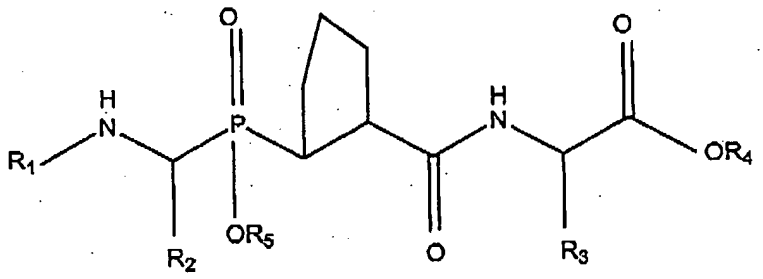


in which R_3 is as defined above, and

6) removing the protecting group ~~Ad~~ $\underline{R^5}$.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): A process as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the peptide coupling step 5) is performed via solid-phase peptide synthesis wherein the solid phase is a resin substituted with the amino acid of formula (IX) or (X).

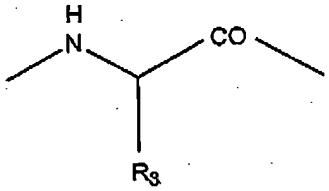
Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a pseudopeptide of formula:



(II)

wherein,

- R_1 represents a protecting group for an amine function, or an amino acid or a peptide protected with a protecting group for an amine function,
- R_2 and R_3, which may be identical or different, represent the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid, the sequence:

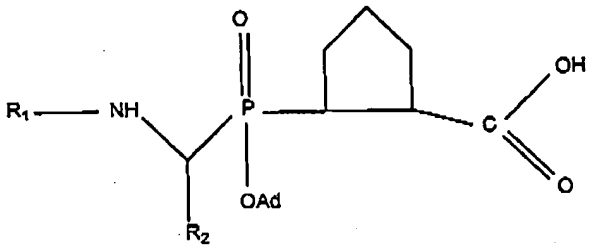


also possibly forming the Pro residue,

- R_4 represents a hydrogen atom, and
- R_5 represents a group that ~~can form~~ forms an *in vivo* hydrolysable phosphinic ester;

wherein the phosphinic function of the pseudopeptide obtained via the process of Claim 14 is esterified by coupling with an alcohol of formula R_5OH or by reaction with a halide of formula R_5X in which X represents a halogen atom.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A compound of formula (VIII):



(VIII)

wherein:

- Ad represents an adamantyl group,

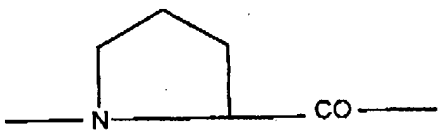
- R_1 represents a protecting group for an amine function or an amino acid or a peptide protected with an amine function, and

- R_2 represents the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 2, wherein R_2 represents the benzyl, methyl or phenylethyl group.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 2, wherein R_3 represents the side chain of alanine, arginine or tryptophan.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 2, wherein the sequence –NH-CH(R_3)-CO- forms the Pro residue:

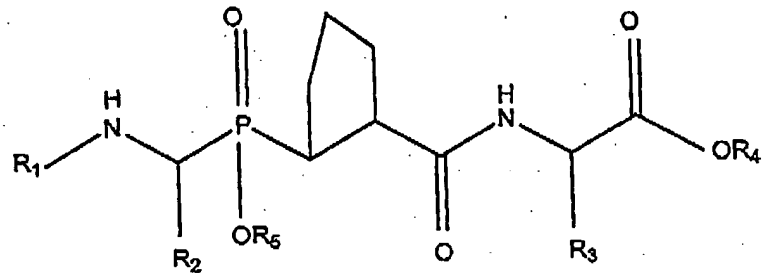


Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 2, wherein R_4 and/or R_5 represent(s) a hydrogen atom.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative as claimed in Claim 10.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one phosphinic pseudopeptide derivative as claimed in Claim 11.

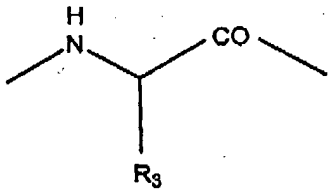
Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a pseudopeptide of formula:



(II)

wherein,

- R_1 represents a protecting group for an amine function, or an amino acid or a peptide protected with a protecting group for an amine function,
- R_2 and R_3, which may be identical or different, represent the side chain of a natural or unnatural amino acid, the sequence:



also possibly forming the Pro residue,

- R_4 represents a hydrogen atom, and
- R_5 represents a group that ~~can form~~ forms an *in vivo* hydrolysable phosphinic ester;

wherein the phosphinic function of the pseudopeptide obtained via the process of Claim 15 is esterified by coupling with an alcohol of formula R_5OH or by reaction with a halide of formula R_5X in which X represents a halogen atom.

Claim 25 (New): A process as claimed in Claim 14, wherein R^5 is an adamantyl group.